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THE HAGUE FOR U.S. CWC DEL

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TAGS: [PARM](#) [AORC](#) [CWC](#) [OPCW](#) [GM](#) [FR](#) [IZ](#) [UK](#)
SUBJECT: CWS/BWC: CLOSE ALLIES MEETING, JUNE 17-18, 2008

REF: A.) STATE 064404

1B.) IIR 663 2405 08 Classified By: Political Counselor Richard Mills for reasons 1.4 (b & d)

1.(SBU) Summary. The Close Allies (U.S., UK, France, Germany) met in London on June 17-18 to discuss issues related to the Chemical and Biological

2.(SBU) Summary con't. The BWC discussion was useful in reviewing the current state of play, determining how to make best use of the August Exp

----- CWC Review Conference Follow-Up -----

3.(SBU) Allies were invited to exchange views on the recent CWC RevCon and its aftermath. All agreed that the report was an acceptable document

14. (C) German, UK, and U.S. reps all disagreed with this assessment to some degree, noting that the only real obstacles to consensus were the

15. (C) Allies briefly discussed India's relatively unconstructive role at the RevCon. There was agreement that India's positions, driven in pa

----- Functioning of the OPCW Policy-Making Organs -----

16. (SBU) Allies discussed how to improve the functioning of the OPCW Executive Council on the basis of a U.S.-drafted discussion paper. There

17. (SBU) Allies also discussed how best to deal with the disruptive tactics of Iran and a few other delegations, noting that there was effecti

18. (SBU) German reps noted that the group had identified useful ideas, and that the new EC Chairperson, Ambassador Tomova, was energetic and i

----- June Executive Council Session Agenda -----

9.(C) Maradykovskiy and Leonidovka. U.S. reps provided Allies an update on U.S. discussions with the OPCW Technical Secretariat and the Direct

10.(SBU) The Allies agreed that report language on this issue could strengthen our position if agreed. James Harrison, UK MOD, further stated t

11. (SBU) Pine Bluff. USDEL noted our intention to propose that the amendments to Pine Bluff documents be deleted from the agenda, since opera

12.(SBU) EC Visit to Shchuch'ye. German Ambassador Burkart and ISN/CB Office Director Mikulak will both be on the EC delegation to the Shchuch'

----- Near-Term Priorities -----

13.(C) Allies' views on near-term (next 12 months) priorities varied significantly: -- German rep Peter Beerwerth thought that the next 12 mont

14. (SBU) The UK undertook to draft a compilation with a view to arriving at an agreed set of near-term objectives that the Allies could revie

----- Next Steps on Article XI -----

15. (C) The UK distributed a paper outlining possible measures that could be undertaken in support of international cooperation and assistance

16.(C) All allies agreed that positive steps on Article XI would be politically useful, although the U.S. stressed that they would not resolve

----- An Unexpected Discovery -----

17. (S) German del briefed allies on the recent discovery in Germany of 300 grams of high-purity (>90 percent) sarin. Information was consiste

----- Brain Storming Session/Future of the OPCW Post-2012 -----

18. (SBU) In the afternoon the UK conducted an exercise intended to stimulate and elicit ideas about: expected trends and developments to 2020

----- U.S.-UK Bilateral on Iraqi CWC Accession -----

19. (S) U.S. and UK Reps met to review the status of Iraqi CWC accession and related issues regarding Iraq's initial declaration. Neither side

20. (S) Regarding presentation of Iraq's declaration and the related U.S. and UK information, the OPCW TS (Reeps) suggestion that Iraq make a

21. (S) The DoD rep reported that a DOD internal working group is addressing issues related to the contents of two suspect cruciform bunkers a

22. (S) UK rep raised the issue of whether ricin, botulinum, and aflatoxin, which are not currently in the draft Iraqi declaration, should be

23. (S) All participants agreed that Iraq's production of ricin, a Schedule 1 chemical, should be reported to the OPCW. The UK expressed the v

----- BWC: Plans for August Meeting of Experts ----- 24. (U) The UK pla

25. (U) France indicated that it would provide four national papers, as well as updates to an EU paper, as follows: -- two papers by the Food

26. (U) Germany reported on three papers in preparation: -- an update of legislation on licensing and regulations of personnel in facilities w

27. (U) France, with its "incoming" EU Presidency hat on, reported on three EU papers in preparation: -- a paper on EU legislation on bio-safe

28. (U) The U.S. provided information on its presentations.

----- BWC - Outreach; Making the Most of the August Meeting -----

29. (U) The four agreed to share drafts in advance, with a view to ensuring that there are no gaps in coverage at the meeting. U.S. HOD sugges

30. (U) On outreach, France asked that the list of outreach activities in which the four were engaged be updated by the U.S. before the next m

31. (U) Experts' Meeting Goals. In response to U.S. HOD's query about goals, UK identified "best practices," continuity, and identifying furth

----- Activity in Support of BWC -----

32. (U) EU Joint Actions. As incoming EU President, France spoke to two new EU Actions. The second BWTC Joint Action is being finalized, havir

33. (U) The second EU action is providing support (an expert) for WHO in the field of bio-safety and biosecurity, which is more difficult to s

34. (U) German expert Beck provided more details on the first EU Joint Action, which ended in April. On the two countries with which they work

----- BWC CBMs -----

35. (SBU) In order to prepare for the next Review Conference in 2011, Germany proposed that work be initiated now on confidence-building measu

----- BWC - Other Issues -----

36. (U) UK reported briefly on the June 12-15 Wilton Park seminar on the G-8 Global Partnership and cooperation in BTWC implementation and on a

¶37. (U) France reported that a White Paper on Defense and Security has just been issued with a nonproliferation section addressing CBRN.

¶38. (U) Germany reported on the EU follow up to its Green Paper on bio-preparedness. Of the Bio Working Group's four sub-groups, the human pat
----- Follow-up/Next Meeting -----

¶39. (SBU) The UK has committed to draft a) a notional list of allied priorities, based on discussions on the 17th, for review and comment; and
----- Participants -----

¶40. (U) UK Delegation: -- Chris Rampling, Deputy Head (WMD), Counter-Proliferation Department, FCO; -- Jacqueline Daley, Head, Chemical and Bi

¶41. (U) French Delegation: -- Camille Grand, Deputy Director for Multilateral Affairs, Disarmament and Conventional Arms Control, MFA; -- Anne

¶42. (U) German Delegation: -- Werner Burkart, PermRep to OPCW; -- Alexander Olbrich, Director, BW/CW Division, MFA; -- Peter Beerwerth, BW/CW
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